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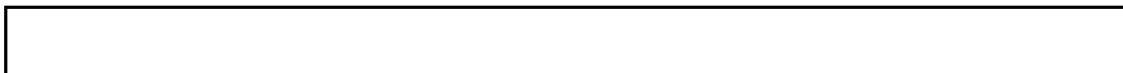
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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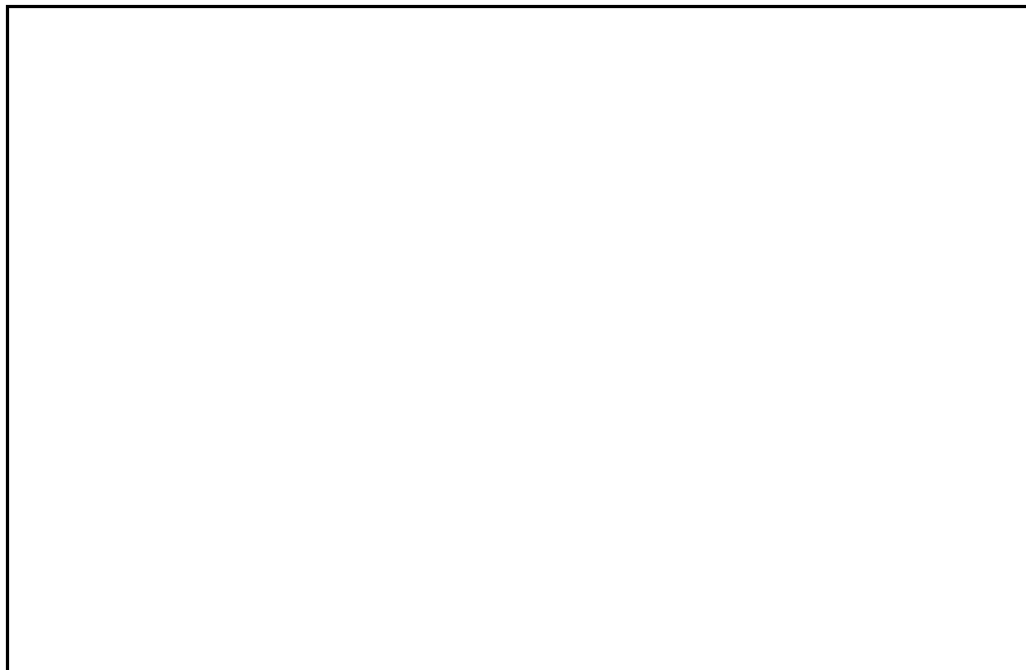
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*South Vietnam: Viet Cong regular troops effectively demonstrated their defensive capabilities by holding off superior government forces attacking a village in the southern delta on 19 October.

Apparently profiting from lessons learned in a similar bloody battle at Ap Bac last January, the Viet Cong made maximum use of an "impressive" system of fortifications ringing Loc Ninh village in Chuong Thien Province.

Heavy and accurate automatic weapons fire from entrenchments pinned down the initial attacking elements as they advanced across open fields after disembarking from helicopters. Reinforcing helicopter-borne units were brought under similar fire while still in their landing zones. Fighting continued until after dark, when the enemy forces disengaged and withdrew.

Strikes by 31 combat aircraft failed to neutralize the intensive Communist antiaircraft machinegun fire, which hit 13 US and Vietnamese aircraft.

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[REDACTED] The government troops reportedly conducted themselves well "under trying conditions"--bad weather delayed some reinforcements, and the remote location of the objective precluded the use of artillery.

Government forces earlier this month had conducted ten major operations in Chuong Thien Province--all but one of them targeted against the 1096th Battalion--without significant contact. The Viet Cong, for their part, attacked at least nine outposts in the province, one of the most insecure in the delta. [REDACTED]

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DAILY BRIEF

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Turkey-Cyprus: Turkish Prime Minister Inonu has warned US officials that the Turkish people would have a "volcanic" reaction to any change in the Cyprus constitution which adversely affected the rights of the Turkish minority on the island.

President Makarios is contemplating changes because he considers the present delicately balanced arrangements unworkable. If the current constitution is not upheld, Inonu sees partition of the island between the Greek and Turkish communities as the only alternative. Such a step would increase the danger of renewed civil strife on Cyprus and damage NATO cooperation in the area.

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DAILY BRIEF

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NOTE

Greece: The Communist-dominated United Democratic Left (EDA) may be deliberately provoking strong police countermeasures in an effort to discredit the scheduled 3 November parliamentary elections. EDA supporters apparently planned a sharp clash with Athens police last week that caused injuries to 58 persons. The party, the third strongest in the last parliament, has failed to form a popular front against ex-Premier Karamanlis and is charging the caretaker government with "legalized fraud" in supervising the election campaign.

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DAILY BRIEF

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The Special Assistant for National Security Affairs

The Scientific Adviser to the President

The Director of the Budget

The Director, National Aeronautics and Space Administration

The Department of State

The Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Counselor and Chairman of the Policy Planning Council

The Director of Intelligence and Research

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The Secretary of the Treasury

The Under Secretary of the Treasury

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The Deputy Secretary of Defense

The Secretary of the Army

The Secretary of the Navy

The Secretary of the Air Force

The Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs)

The Assistant Secretary of Defense

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Supreme Allied Commander, Europe

Commander in Chief, Pacific

Commander in Chief, Atlantic

The Director, Defense Intelligence Agency

The Director, The Joint Staff

The Director for Intelligence, The Joint Staff

The Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Department of Army

The Director of Naval Intelligence, Department of Navy

The Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Air Force

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